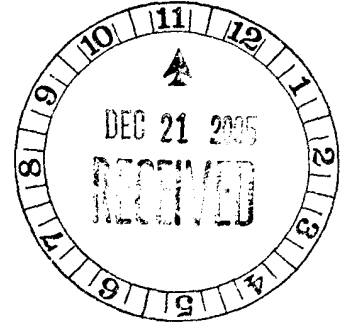


SIDNEY STRICKLAND AND ASSOCIATES, PLLC

3050 K ST. N.W., SUITE 101
WASHINGTON, DC 20007-5108
TELEPHONE: 202-295-4024
FAX: 202-672-5399

SIDNEY L. STRICKLAND, JR.
SIDNEY.STRICKLAND@STRICKLANDPLLCC.COM

December 21, 2005



Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20423-0001

**Re: STB Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 401X), BNSF Railway Company --Abandonment
Exemption-- in Polk County, IA**

Dear Secretary Williams:

BNSF Railway Company (BNSF) previously filed a notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1152 Subpart F – Exempt Abandonments to abandon a 1.88-mile line of railroad, between milepost 67.38 and milepost 1.45, near Des Moines, in Polk County, IA. Notice of the exemption was served and published in the Federal Register on July 16, 2004 (69 FR 42803-04). The exemption became effective on August 17, 2004.

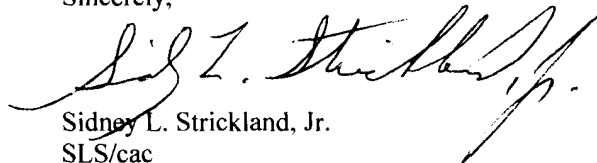
By decision served on July 21, 2005, the Board granted BNSF's request for an extension of time to file a notice of consummation until December 31, 2005. Winter weather conditions have hampered the ability to conduct salvage activities. Accordingly, BNSF requests an extension of the consummation deadline until July 1, 2006.

Please acknowledge receipt of this letter by date stamping the enclosed copy of this letter and returning it to me in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope.

Ten (10) additional copies of this letter are enclosed for the Board's use and distribution.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 295-4024.

Sincerely,


Sidney L. Strickland, Jr.
SLS/cac

cc: James Gallegos
Jerry Johnson
Richard Batie
Dalen Wintermute